

- d. Contemporary Train Service. What railroads now operate what trains? How much of county served? What routes? Give schedules, rates, both passenger, mail and freight.
- e. Airplane Facilities and Service. What airports are there? What air service? Do any large lines have landing fields or airports in the county? What connections with metropolitan centers are there? Any airplane freight service? Mail service? Any local concerns operating planes?
- f. Radio Commercial or Amateur Stations. Any radio stations? Commercial? Amateur? Location, power history, improvement, service? Give names of persons in county responsible for development? Any programs of local nature? Any original use of radio? Any use in disasters, floods, etc?

Record any story of interest pertaining to these things. Also be careful to give dates, locations, and people's names in as many instances as possible. Give names of officials of all companies, etc., concerned. Give full names, correct dates and locations. It is important that none of the material be doubtful as to veracity or authenticity.

# CHAPTER TEN - COUNTY GOVERNMENT (Pocahontas County)

## CHAPTER OUTLINE

- I. Pre-county Government and Public Administration. This section should sketch the governmental arrangement of the larger counties of which this county was first a part, and the study of the area's government and public administration should become more intensified as the chronological development approaches the birth of the county under consideration. The section should extend from the beginnings of organized law and order to the formation of the county, treating of the first large county which covered the geographical area, then in succession of the subdivisions until the present county formed.
  - A. The laws and their administration when the county lay within other spheres.
  - B. The judicial jurisdiction; the courts, justices, circuits, sittings, and typical cases of that time.
  - C. The legislative jurisdiction; the bodies having law-making power over the county, and the attention given the county by these bodies.
  - D. The executive jurisdiction; the boards, bureaus, and individuals holding executive office; their functions, how well administrated, and by whom.
  - E. County costs and services; taxes, how collected, who from, and who by, and for what purposes; what special assessments; services given the people.
  - F. County sentiment toward their government; points of friction resulting in the separation from the older county and the formation of a new county; reasons expressed for need of new county; influences used to gain the end.
  - G. Influence of county in state, regional, and national public life; prominent men of the county who made places in public life outside the county.
- II. The Formation of the County. This section should follow the history of the county's government from the formation of the present county to the decade beginning with 1930. The history would necessarily be telescoped, so that only the most interesting or most important men and events under sections A, B, C, D, E, and G of the above outline would be mentioned. First to be told would be the formation of the new county, the petitions, petitioners, speeches, writings, public gatherings, debates, etc., which resulted in the growth of public sentiment for a new county. Next would come the first elections and their results, the first officers and county public bodies and their functions, the first official structure set up for county public administration. Here also should be told the story of how the boundaries of the county were determined, and who determined them, and what events happened in connection with this determination. Also herein should be included the first provisions for representation from the new county to the state legislature or general assembly. Particular attention should be paid to the disruptions in county government caused by the formation of the new state, by the War between the States, and by the

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Reconstruction sentiment which caused the passage of the "test oath" clause in the new state's constitution. Especially in the southern and eastern counties these matters require detailed attention, since the "test oath" wielded terrific influence on suffrage at the time, and places great power in the hands of a few local men.

The subdivisions of Section I mentioned above would be followed through this entire span of the county's governmental life to the beginning of the 1930's.

III. Summation of County Operation. Here should be studied the phases of county government according to the following topical heads. Much of the information can be given in tabulated form. This division is primarily intended to be a chart of facts, rather than a study of trends and their accompanying men and events, as in Division II, above. The material required consists almost entirely of undiluted facts; the only interpretation in this division would enter in the study of the following subdivisions in the light of the last ten years and the foreshadows of the future:

- A. Officers and public bodies; their names, locations, functions, responsibilities, cause of the creation of these offices, and history since their creation.
- B. The Laws of the County. This would include only such legislature as was applicable to the county exclusively. Emphasis would be placed on odd or unusual laws necessary to the operation of the county or passed as a result of some particular pressure.
- C. Taxation and Revenues. A summary of all county taxation and income; the standing of the county's bonded indebtedness; fiscal expenditures; extraordinary expenditures from time to time, and their purposes; special levies and assessments.
- D. Elections and Politics. All data concerning elections, the polls, political subdivisions, such as wards, precincts, districts, etc; the voting requirements and how they have changed; the hours and dates and methods of voting; famous elections in the county's history and the events which make them remembered; the political parties and their strength in the county, past and present.
- E. Public Buildings and Equipment. Major purchases or construction, with dates, costs, and reasons for expenditure, and administrations which carried through such work.
- F. Public Service. The services afforded the county's people, and the institutions maintained for their benefit; Farm Aid; the D.P.A.; Public health and its administration; public inspection for safety of various aspects of county living; county sponsorship of W.P.A. and N.Y.A. projects; public safety preparations, law enforcement officers, locations, equipment and functions.
- G. County Courts. Justices of the Peace and a statement regarding the size and jurisdiction of magisterial districts would be treated here also. The size of the courts, their history, time and place of sitting; typical cases; method of selecting judges; history of the

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courts and a cause celebre or two by way of illustration.

H. Roads. The county's roads, their conditions and maintenance; the funds spent on them; the participation in state and national monies designed for roadbuilding and surfacing.

I. Improvement trends and future indicated expansion of county governmental activities, all phases.

J. Famous Jurists, legislators, or unusual career in politics or public life.